
Introduced by Senator Morrow

June 5, 2003

Senate Resolution No. 22—Relative to the 50th anniversary of the end of the Korean War.

1 WHEREAS, July 27, 2003, marks the 50th anniversary of the
2 armistice agreement between the United Nations and North Korea
3 ending the three-year Korean War that began on June 25, 1950,
4 with the invasion of South Korea by North Korea; and

5 WHEREAS, In this war there were 33,741 United States
6 military personnel killed, 103,284 United States military
7 personnel wounded, and 8,177 United States military personnel
8 taken prisoner of war or reported missing in action; and

9 WHEREAS, On June 27, 1950, President Truman ordered
10 United States Air and Naval forces to help defend South Korea and
11 the United Nations asked member nations to aid South Korea; and

12 WHEREAS, On June 30, 1950, President Truman ordered
13 United States ground troops to South Korea and General Douglas
14 MacArthur was assigned as the commander of the United Nations
15 Forces; and

16 WHEREAS, On September 15, 1950, in a surprise move that
17 dramatically changed the course of the Korean War, United States
18 Marines and soldiers of the United States 10th Corps made a
19 successful amphibious landing at the port of Inchon, the first
20 amphibious landing against a hostile beachhead since the invasion
21 of Okinawa in April 1945, during World War II; and

22 WHEREAS, In December 1950, when the First Marine
23 Division was attacked by a numerically superior Chinese
24 Communist army in the Chosin Reservoir area of North Korea, it



1 fought valiantly to the port of Hungnam where military personnel
2 and equipment were evacuated by the United States Navy. Under
3 the leadership of Major General O. P. Smith, United States Marine
4 Corps, the Marines brought out their dead, their wounded, and
5 most of their combat gear; and

6 WHEREAS, The Soviet Union soon began to supply North
7 Korea with MIG-15 jets, and dogfights became an important part
8 of the war when as many as 100 to 150 United States F-86 jets and
9 Soviet-built MIG-15 jets fought heated air battles over North
10 Korea; and

11 WHEREAS, The United States Air Force, Navy, and Marine
12 Corps lost more than 2,000 planes during the war, and allied fliers
13 destroyed more than 1,000 Communist planes and killed an
14 estimated 300,000 enemy troops; and

15 WHEREAS, The allied naval forces included four battleships,
16 eight cruisers, 16 aircraft carriers, and 80 destroyers, and the
17 United States Navy supported land troops by firing at enemy
18 targets and conducted a two-year siege of Wonsan, a Communist
19 oil refining and industrial city; and

20 WHEREAS, The Korean War ended on July 27, 1953, when the
21 United Nations and North Korea signed an armistice agreement;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, A permanent peace treaty between South Korea
24 and North Korea has never been signed; and

25 WHEREAS, The Korean War is often called “The Forgotten
26 War” because many of our nation’s veterans have been forgotten;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, Our nation’s Korean War veterans served their
29 country with honor and dignity and we should remember the
30 legacy of their courage; and

31 WHEREAS, Although the Korean War is termed by some as a
32 “Police Action,” it was in fact a vicious and bloody war for those
33 who fought it; now, therefore, be it

34 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the
35 Senate hereby commemorates July 27, 2003, as the 50th
36 anniversary of the end of the Korean War; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
38 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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